

Proposed conversion of Waverley House to form individual residential apartments.

Design and Access Statement incorporating Heritage Statement.

The property is currently only partially occupied by the DVLA and operates as a driving test centre. The remainder of the building is now vacant and had been previously sublet into smaller individual office units sharing facilities. The building was purchased recently from the Church and the current owners seek permission to convert the building to residential use.

The property is situated within the Greenhead Park Conservation Area. The building was originally constructed to form a family home with the original plans passed in 1876, designed by a Local Architect W.H. Crossland for Dr William Scott. The plans included a library, nursery and boudoir Scott lived in the property up to 1893.

The building was converted to a school after Dr Scott forming The Huddersfield Girls High School while 1901.

The Presbyterians purchased the property in 1901 originally planning to convert the building into a church. Although used for worship the conversion plan was found to be unviable and the building was converted to a house jointly occupied by the reverends and families, with subsequent conversions to form caretakers accommodation. Evidence of subletting goes back to 1914 with various rooms used for teaching. The government started to occupy parts of the building from 1920 using rooms for use by the Audit Office. Evidence of world war occupation by billeting soldiers is evident in parts of the building.

In recent history the church has let the building to provide income to maintain the building and the adjacent church. Falls in congregation numbers and the high cost of maintenance led to the sale of the building.

The current owners wish to bring back the use to its former residential status by forming high quality residential apartments. Works are predominantly internal but additional roof lights are required to produce natural daylight to new bedrooms.

The Driving Test Centre will remain for the immediate future, but its use will not detract from the proposal since the centre operates purely Monday to Friday during normal office hours. Our submission provides improvements to the current and former parking areas and improvements to the off-street parking will benefit nearby residents whom we feel are neglected by the constant on street parking of test centre operatives and learners.

The building will benefit by providing much needed accommodation within walking distance of the Town centre and has good local public transport facilities. As our report details the proposal is returning the building to its original use which can only benefit the aims of the Local Authority and the setting of the Conservation Area.

We submit that our proposal would form complementary additions to the proposed residential user submitted by Prior Notification.